



**QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX**  
**October 1, 2002**

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## **Introduction**

This report is submitted pursuant to a motion passed by City Council on August 7, 2002 requesting comparative data for the last three years on a number of City services and activities. The statistical data included herein covers four major areas: Safety, Cleanliness, Housing, and Infrastructure.

This information was collected from a variety of City departments. Most of the areas covered contain statistics describing the time period from 1999 through June 2002. However, due to the variety of collection and reporting methods across City departments, as well as the different types of information included, we were not able to provide such historical data for all categories. For example, prior to 2002, accurate tracking measures allowing for a comparison between the 2002 graffiti abatement data provided in Section 2 and previous years were not in place. City Council recently enacted a change in the notification process for graffiti abatement which may affect the ability to compare this information with future reports.

Where possible, we have attempted to compare the first two quarters of 2001 and the first two quarters of 2002. These comparisons are illustrated in the graphs contained throughout this report and include the following:

- In the first quarter, Part 1 Crimes increased from 5,558 to 6,277 (12.9%) from 2001 to 2002. Part 2 Crimes decreased from 3,782 to 3,716 (1.7%) over the same time period.
- In the second quarter, Part 1 Crimes decreased slightly from 6,975 to 6,970 (.07%) from 2001 to 2002. Part 2 Crimes also decreased from 4,746 to 4,540 (4.3%) over the same time period.
- The number of panhandling citations issued in the first quarter dropped from 18 in 2001 to 10 in 2002. In the second quarter this number dropped from 13 to 10.
- Noise violation citations dropped 34% in the first quarter from 111 in 2001 to 73 in 2002. In the second quarter, however, noise violation citations increased 107% from 107 in 2001 to 222 in 2002.
- From 2001 to 2002, the number of abandoned cars removed increased significantly in both the first and second quarters. In the first quarter, the number of cars removed increased from 161 in 2001 to 588 in 2002, a

265% increase. In addition, the number of abandoned cars removed in the second quarter increased from 111 in 2001 to 428 in 2002, a 286% increase.

- Street sweeping mileage in the first quarter increased from 5,867 curb miles in 2001 to 6,130 in 2002, an increase of 5%. In the second quarter, street sweeping mileage increased 13% from 6,172 curb miles in 2001 to 6,988 in 2002.
- Litter control citations in the first quarter increased from 119 in 2001 to 272 in 2002, an increase of 128%. In the second quarter, litter control citations increased from 210 in 2001 to 349 in 2002, an increase of 66%.

It is also important to keep in mind that this report reflects that activity tracked through differing methods by the respective City departments. Some seemingly apparent trends in the data contained in this report may be due in part to circumstances and/or factors beyond these departments' control and for which this report does not account. For example, crime statistics provided in Section 1 of this report do not account for nationwide trends in crime. Likewise, data on litter control citations provided in Section 2 may reflect a higher number of resolved complaints than complaints received in a given time period due to the fact that the City may have resolved complaints in one time period that were received in a previous period. In addition, the litter citation numbers reported here reflect the litter citation process in place prior to City Council's recent decision to eliminate some of the notice requirements in the Cincinnati Municipal Code.

We will continue to update this report on a quarterly basis and include new types of information that City Council may deem worthwhile.